

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
CORPUS CHRISTI DIVISION**

|                              |   |                          |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <b>TIMOTHY JERODE WELLS,</b> | § |                          |
| <b>Petitioner,</b>           | § |                          |
|                              | § |                          |
| <b>VS.</b>                   | § | <b>C.A. NO. C-10-396</b> |
|                              | § |                          |
| <b>KEITH ROY,</b>            | § |                          |
| <b>Respondent.</b>           | § |                          |

**MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER DENYING WITHOUT PREJUDICE  
MOTION FOR APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL**

Petitioner is a federal prisoner currently incarcerated at the Three Rivers FCI in Three Rivers, Texas. Proceeding *pro se*, petitioner filed a petition pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241, challenging his felon in possession of a firearm conviction under the savings clause of 28 U.S.C. § 2255(e), and challenging the failure of the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to give him credit for the time he spent in state custody (D.E. 1). Pending is petitioner's request for appointment of counsel (D.E. 20).

There is no constitutional right to counsel in federal habeas proceedings. *Johnson v. Hargett*, 978 F.2d 855 (5th Cir. 1992). *See also United States v. Riggs*, 314 F.3d 796, 799 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) (right to appointed counsel does not extend to post-conviction proceedings). Counsel may be appointed in habeas cases when required in the interests of justice. 18 U.S.C. § 3006A(a)(2); *Santana v. Chandler*, 961 F.2d 514, 516 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1992). Petitioner's pleadings demonstrate that he is reasonably intelligent and articulate. He has demonstrated that he knows how to use the law library and has adequately briefed the

issues in this case, which are not complex. The interests of justice do not require appointment of counsel at this time.

If petitioner's case is scheduled for an evidentiary hearing, counsel will be appointed to represent him. If the interests of justice so require at any point in this litigation, counsel will be *sua sponte* assigned.

Accordingly, petitioner's motion for appointment of counsel (D.E. 20) is denied without prejudice.

ORDERED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2011.

  
B. JANICE ELLINGTON  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE